

able to follow up the sound owing to the thinness of the ice with which the swamp was coated, and failed to see the bird, although it answered my 'squeaking' several times. January 12, 1890, I visited the same swamp in company with Mr. Frank Bolles, and, finding the ice strong enough to bear, went towards some low bushes where I had heard the bird upon the previous date, and soon started a male Red-winged Blackbird in clear bright plumage. After alighting for a few moments in a small birch not forty yards away, the bird flew off across the swamp.

My friend Mr. Walter Faxon informs me that he found a Red-winged Blackbird in the same swamp on January 6, and 27, and on February 1, and 23, 1890, which was doubtless the same bird. The presence of this bird through January, a month which may be regarded as a test month for birds which are spending the winter with us, and on into February until within a few days of the arrival of the spring migrants, is thus established, and affords, I believe, the first record of the wintering of the Red-winged Blackbird in Massachusetts.—HENRY M. SPELMAN, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Coccothraustes vespertina in Taunton, Massachusetts.—On March 8, 1890, as I was walking out of my door I heard the notes of a bird strange to me but which at first I took to be those of the Pine Grosbeak. Getting my gun and coming out into the yard I found three Evening Grosbeaks feeding on the buds of a maple tree. In the course of a few minutes I had two fine males and a female laid out on my skinning table. This is I think the first record for Bristol County.—A. C. BENT, *Taunton, Mass.*

The Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertina*) near Springfield, Mass. — Mr. Edwin U. Leonard captured at Agawam a bird of this species from a flock of about twenty, March 21, 1890. A week or two later a bird of the the same kind was seen near there by Mr. Leonard.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

Junco hyemalis shufeldti in Maryland.—On the 28th of April, 1890, my son, A. W. Ridgway, shot a female of this subspecies near Laurel, Md. The specimen is a very typical one, having the distinctly cinnamon-pinkish sides abruptly contrasted anteriorly against the gray of the chest; in fact, so sharply defined and distinct is this pinkish color that it was supposed to be a *J. annectens*, until careful comparison with specimens showed otherwise. It was shot out of a small flock, in which my son thinks were others of the same kind, but he may have been mistaken.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Seaside Sparrows at Monomoy Island, Cape Cod.—Although I have kept a sharp lookout for the Seaside Sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus*) at Monomoy every season, the first to my knowledge was taken by Dr. L. B. Bishop on the salt marshes, April 14, 1890. This bird, which was

an adult female, was moulting about the head and lower neck. Dr. Bishop saw several others but not thinking that they were rare shot only the above specimen. I visited the marshes several days after and hunted it carefully without seeing a bird, although I saw several Sharp-tailed Sparrows. From my own observation I am inclined to believe that this bird is rare in Massachusetts, at least on the Cape coast.—JOHN C. CAHOON, *Taunton, Mass.*

Young Cedarbirds and Great Crested Flycatchers in Captivity.—While in Tamworth, N. H., last July, I imprisoned two broods of young birds when just ready to fly, with a view to seeing what their parents would do about it. One brood consisted of five Cedarbirds and the other of four Great Crested Flycatchers. I imprisoned the Cedarbirds on July 10, placing them in an ordinary wire canary cage. Their cries, when being caged, brought the mother, who first flew in my face and then perched on the outer edge of the cage as it rested on my knees. I put the cage very near the house, and it was only a short time before the parent birds began consoling the young with cherries (*Prunus pennsylvanica*). During the twelve days of their captivity the young were supplied with 8400 cherries, or one cherry a bird every six minutes. I ascertained the number by counting and weighing the stones left by them in the bottom of their cage. On an average the old bird or birds made 140 visits a day, bringing five cherries, each time. One was carried in the beak, and the others were jerked up from the throat one by one until all of the five young were fed. At their release the young were so tame that they returned to take cherries, from my fingers, but the old birds soon enticed them away.

The young Great Crested Flycatchers were taken from their cavern in an apple tree on July 21, and placed in a wire cage which I hung in the next tree. I could see it from my barn door. The old birds would never go near the young if I was in sight. Concealed, I watched them with a glass and occasionally saw the young fed. They were given harvest flies, dragon flies, and various beetles, and also smaller insects of which they left no fragments. I kept them caged until early in August. They were as wild on the last day as on the first, and if the parents changed their feelings towards me, it was only by intensifying their hatred.—FRANK BOLLES, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Song of the Female Butcher Bird.—On the morning of April 8, 1890, when walking through the Fresh Pond Swamps at Cambridge, I heard a Butcher Bird (*Lanius borealis*) in full song. The bird was an unusually fine singer, and quite a mimic, its medley of notes suggesting a combination of the Brown Thrasher and as the Blue Jay, with an occasional 'mewing' sound much like the common Catbird. It was shot, and on sexing proved a female, the ovary being considerably enlarged.—ARTHUR CHADBOURNE, M. D., *Cambridge, Mass.*

Helminthophila celata at Montreal.—On May 21, 1890, I shot an Orange-crowned Warbler at Montreal. This is, I believe, the first record of its occurrence here.—ERNEST D. WINTLE, *Montreal, Canada.*